エロ怖の事情 Layers of Fear

A DEEP-SEATED GRUDGE WILL INCREASE,

JUST LIKE HOW THE MONTHS AND YEARS PILE UP,

ACCUMULATE, AND EVENTUALLY...?!

Junji Ito

We need cleaners!

We need people to clean ***Nanba MG5*** and ***Shounen Y***. Both use high-resolution, private raws. They are easy and not easy to clean, because super-quality raws need special care to preserve as much detail as possible. We'll be releasing at 2400 px, so Dusting will be time-consuming.

We need someone who can clean high-resolution raws (1200 dpi, 8-bit greyscale, generated by an experienced scanner) well, preferably without using Topaz filters. You need to be prepared to clean one chapter every week for ***Nanba***, and at least one per month for ***Shounen Y***, and to be dedicated to achieve the best results possible.

This is our test: https://goo.gl/W41Cvx

Please save the cleaned PSDs as a compressed folder, upload it to a cloud storage service and send us the link. You can do it by PM'ing me at deathtollscans.net, mangadex.com (my nick there is Kendama), Discord (https://discord.gg/9kTthjW) or our IRC at (webchat.irchighway.net/?channels=deathtoll). Or you can post it as a new thread in the Join us section in our website.

Experienced applicants can be tested by cleaning an actual future chapter instead of taking the test. To prove you're experienced, tell us your past or current affiliations and show samples of your past work.

We have a a few cleans serving as a buffer, but both series may stall if by the time we run out no one has applied.

We could do with a redrawer, too!

We do have a redrawer for ***Nanba***, but we're trying to do weekly releases. While most of the recent delay was caused by the lack of a cleaner, even if we get one we'll have very little breathing space if anything happens.

It's a hard series. Not crazy hard, but close. So applicants should do our full test, but they can leave out the DIFFICULT pages: https://goo.gl/qfnsc6

Submission is as for cleaners. Bypassing the test, too.

The Internet, March the fifth, 2018,

Wraith
Death Toll Scanlations

THE RUINS OF A MIDDEN IN AJIME, 1996.

OR RATHER, AREN'T THEY PILED UP ARTIFICIALLY?

ABOUT THESE LAYERS... IS THAT A FOLD?

PROFESSOR SOYA!

WHAT'S THE MATTER, YAMAOKA-KUN?

RESEMBLE A HUMAN'S FACE FROM THE SIDE? FACE UP, I MEAN...

PROFESSOR, DON'T THESE LAYERS...

HM... THEY LOOK TOO UNNATURAL FOR A FOLD.

HEY, GO DIG DEEPER HERE.

OK!

IT APPEARS THAT PROFESSOR SOYA, THE GENIUS IN STRATIGRAPHY, IS ON TO SOMETHING!

MM. INDEED.

AND IT HAS LAYERS RADIATING OUTWARDS, AS WELL.

THIS SKULL BELONGS TO SOMEONE FROM ANCIENT TIMES.

LOOKS LIKE A YOUNG CHILD.

AH! PROFESSOR!

TAKE A LOOK AT THIS!

HMM.

PERHAPS... THIS MIGHT BE THE REMAINS OF A RITUAL OR SOMETHING.

IS THERE A CONNECTION BETWEEN THE BONE AND THE EARTH ABOVE IT?

THEY MIGHT HAVE COVERED THE CORPSE OF AN INFANT LITTLE BY LITTLE WITH THIN LAYERS OF CLAY.

FOR EXAMPLE,

BY DOING THIS, THEY GRADUALLY CREATED A BIG HUMAN-SHAPED TOMB.

WHAT DO YOU MEAN? COULD YOU ELABO-RATE?

I THINK IT'S SOME-THING LIKE A BURIAL RITUAL.

FLASH

WELL, THIS IS JUST MY ASSUMPTION, BUT WE SHOULD GET CLOSER TO THE ANSWER IF WE ANALYZE THE LAYERS.

AS TIME PASSES, THE TOMB GETS BURIED UNDER THE GROUND. THE PATTERN IS A CROSS SECTION OF THAT GRAVE.

In that case, it'd be a huge discovery!

I see!

LET'S COVER THIS UP BEFORE IT STARTS TO RAIN.

THE WEATHER ISN'T PLAYING ALONG THOUGH.

RUMBLE

YES, SIR.

VROOM

2017.

REIMI, TODAY IS THE THIRTEENTH ANNIVERSARY OF YOUR FATHER'S DEATH.

YOU MUST BE TIRED FROM STAYING AWAKE FOR SO LONG.

OH MOM, I'M NOT A CHILD ANY-MORE. ATTENDING A CEREMONY IS NOT A PROBLEM FOR ME.

REALLY?

Hohoho.

OH MOM... STOP IT.

YOU WERE SO CUTE WHEN YOU SAID "MAMA, CARRY ME! MAMA, CARRY ME!"

AS A CHILD YOU ALWAYS WANTED ME TO CARRY YOU.

YOU WERE SUCH A CUTE CHILD. HOHOHO.

YEAH, YOU WERE REALLY CUTE, REIMI.

Hohoho.

I'D HAVE TO ALWAYS FACE MYSELF. I DON'T LIKE BEING CONFRONTED BY MY PAST ALL THE TIME.

I'M TOO SHY FOR THE SHOW BIZ, NARUMI.

IT FEELS LIKE BEING SHUT IN A SHELL.

IF YOU HAD CONTINUED, YOU MIGHT HAVE BECOME A STAR. WHY DID YOU QUIT?

WHEN YOU WERE TWO, MOM GOT INTO CONTACT WITH A TALENT AGENCY, AND YOU MADE AN APPEARANCE IN A COMMERCIAL. ALL EYES TURNED TOWARDS YOU.

NAH, IT'S OKAY, MOM.

I AM SO SORRY FOR NOT REALIZING HOW YOU FELT!

OH REIMI, DEAR!

IT WASN'T EASY WORKING AS A TV PERSONALITY, AND I WANTED TO BE PAMPERED BY MOM.

I'D CARRY YOU AS MUCH AS YOU WANT!

I WISH I COULD TURN TIME BACK TO WHEN YOU WERE TWO AND SPOIL YOU ALL THE TIME!

SHE SPENT ALL THE MONEY AND ALL HER TIME WITH YOU.

EVEN WHEN I NEEDED TO GET MY TEETH DONE,

AND ME? I DIDN'T GET ANYTHING.

WHETHER IT WAS PRACTICE LESSONS OR WHATEVER ELSE.

ANYWAY, AREN'T YOU GLAD THAT MOM HELPED YOU SO MUCH, REIMI?

STOP BEING JEALOUS OF HER!

WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT, NARUMI?

THANKS TO THAT, MY TEETH LOOK APPALLING...

YOU WERE TOO UGLY.

THERE WASN'T ANYTHING I COULD DO FOR YOU.

THAT'S BECAUSE REIMI HAD GOOD FUTURE PROSPECTS.

OF COURSE I'D INVEST IN HER! SHE WAS A TV PERSONALITY, AFTER ALL.

YOU KEPT DOING THAT EVEN AFTER SHE QUIT.

EH?!

SIS! WATCH OUT!

WHAT DID YOU SAY?!

WHACK

...ALL RIGHT?

ARE YOU TWO...

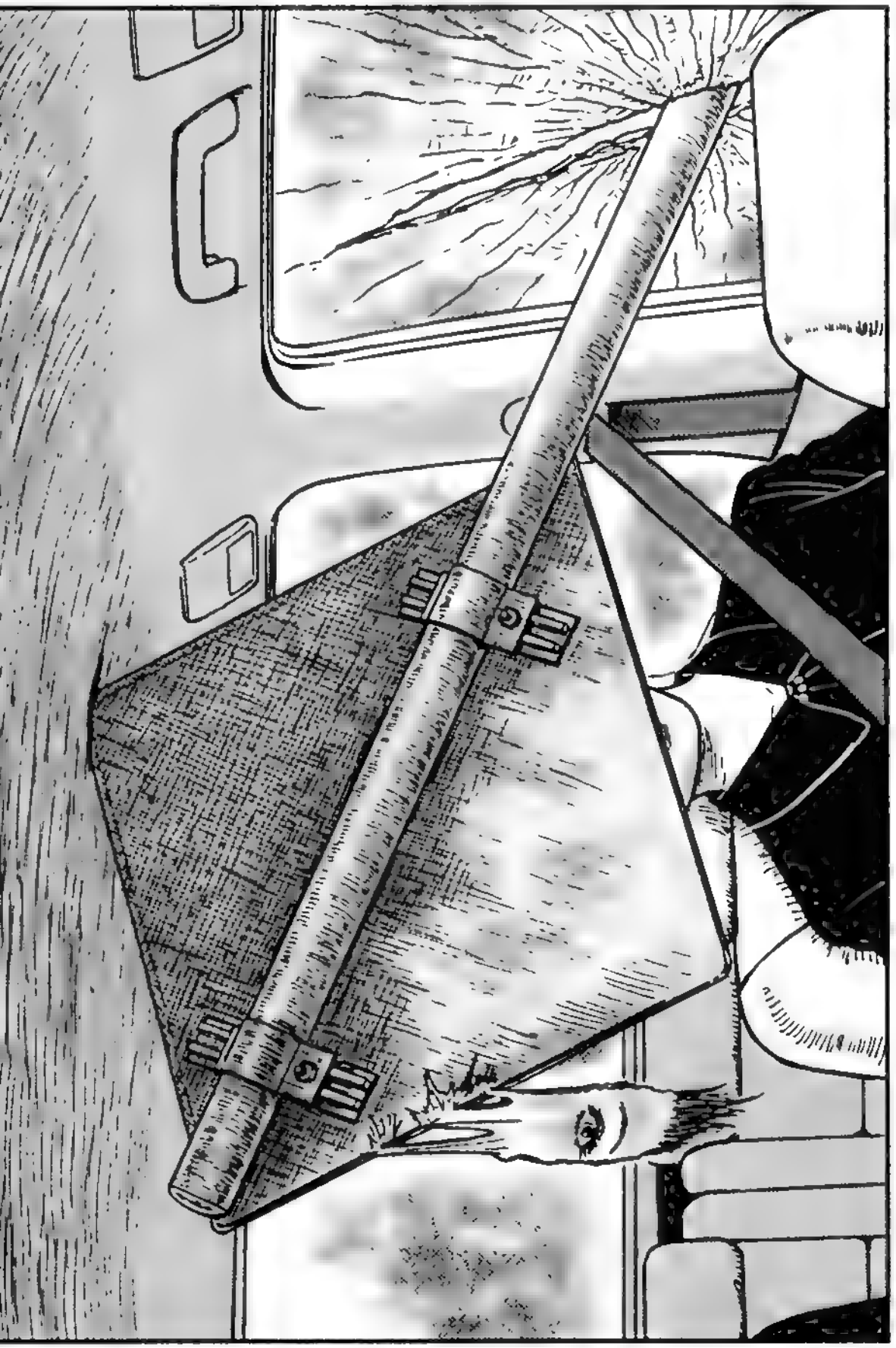
UH...

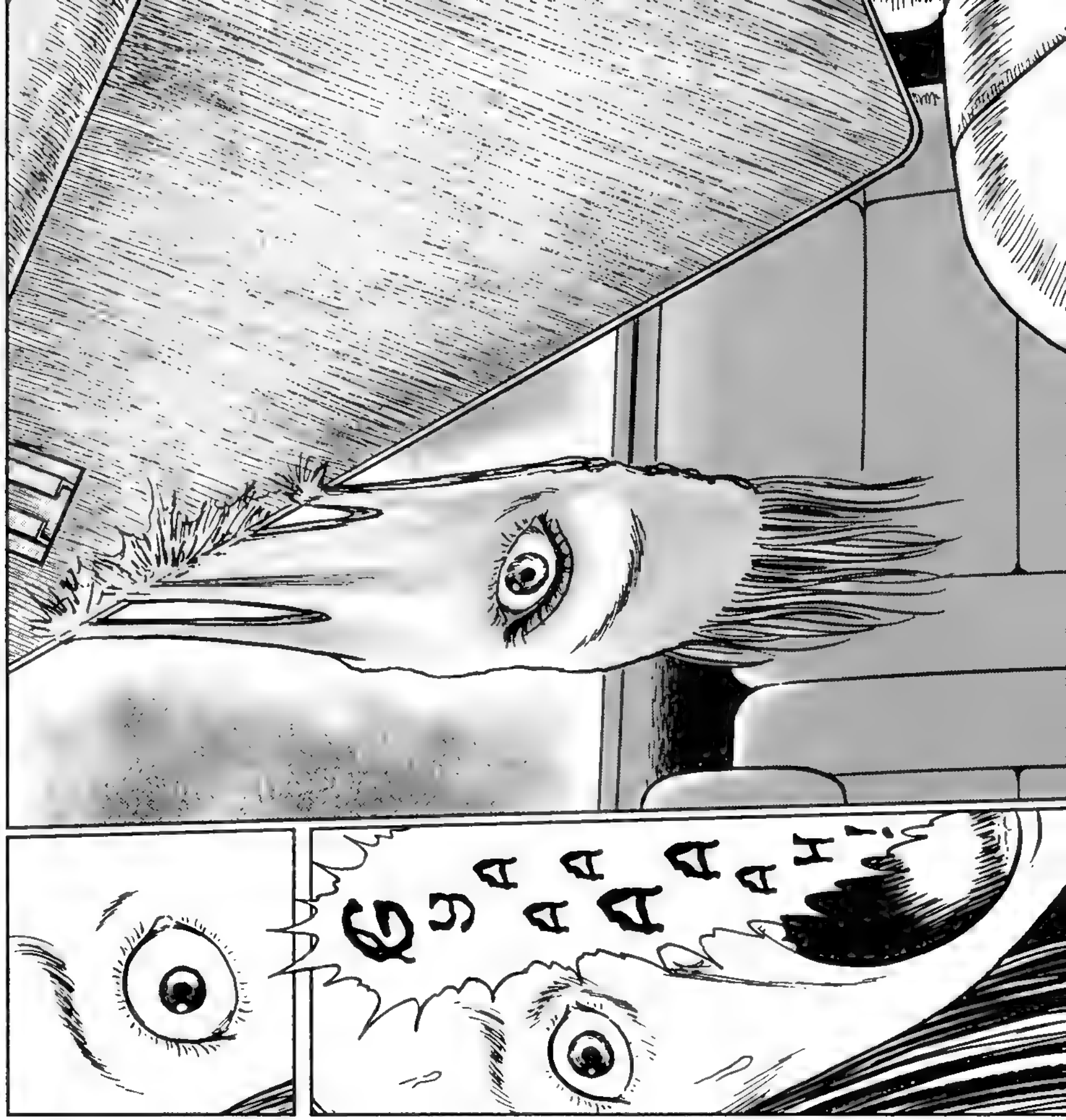
AH!

...

REIMI!

REIMI! ARE YOU OKAY?




Gaaaaaah!

AH! REIMI'S PRETTY FACE!

HER FACE!

...

DID YOU HEAR ME? YOUR FAULT!

NARUMI... IT'S ALL YOUR FAULT!

PLEASE TAKE A LOOK AT YOUR DAUGHTER.

SHE HAS REGAINED CONSCIOUS-NESS, BUT SOMETHING IS STRANGE...

...?

DOCTOR!

HOW IS REIMI?!

WHAT WE FOUND UNDER THE CRUST COVERING THE WOUND WAS...

THEREFORE, THE SUBCUTANEOUS MUSCLES OUGHT TO BE EXPOSED, BUT...

THE SKIN ON THE LEFT SIDE OF YOUR DAUGHTER'S FACE WAS SLICED OFF.

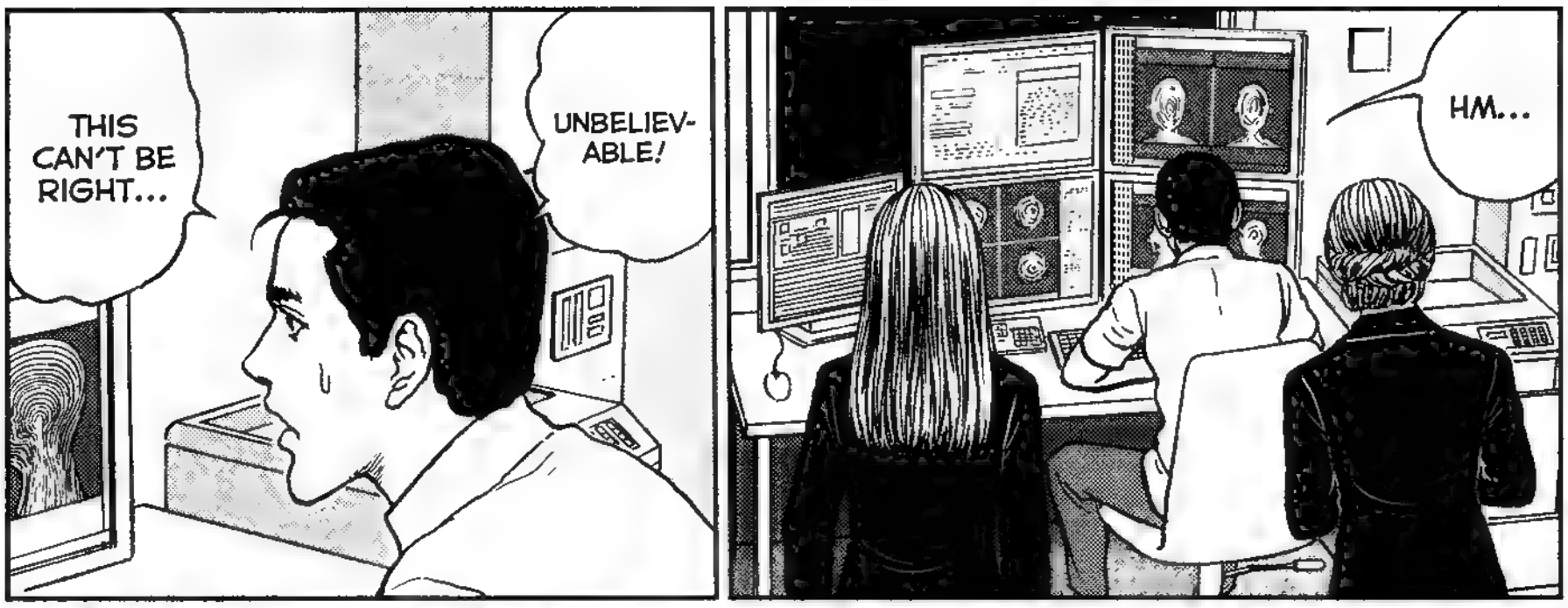
HER FACE... IS STILL THERE...

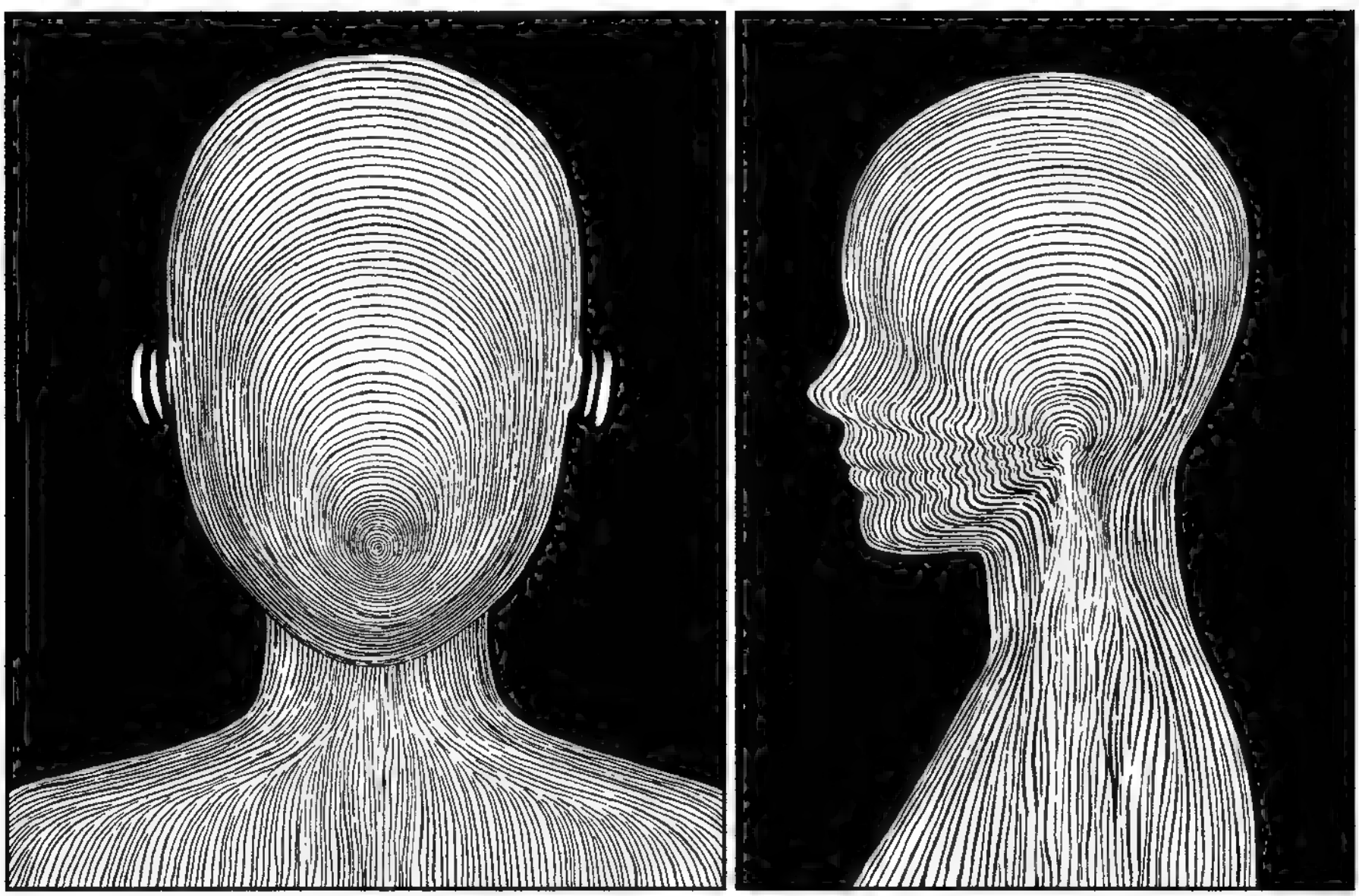
WHAT'S... GOING ON HERE?

I CAN'T EXPLAIN WHAT'S GOING ON HERE.

THERE WAS ANOTHER LAYER OF SKIN UNDER THE ONE THAT GOT SLICED OFF.

WHAT... HAPPENED TO ME?
M-MOM...
MM...
UH...
WELL, LET'S START WITH AN MRI.
DOCTOR... CAN YOU FIX HER FACE BACK TO ITS ORIGINAL STATE?
MY POOR CHILD!
OH! REIMI!
TH
UN
K


THIS CAN'T BE RIGHT...
UNBELIEV-ABLE!
HM...



WHAT?!
THESE ARE STACKED LAYERS.
WELL... MA'AM...
WHAT'S THAT?

I CAN'T SEE ANY ORGANS, BONES OR EVEN A BRAIN THAT ANY NORMAL HUMAN SHOULD HAVE!

IN OTHER WORDS, YOUR DAUGHTER'S BODY CONSISTS OF MULTIPLE LAYERS.

THE LAYERS OF THE OUTER SKIN HAS BEEN STACKED MULTIPLE TIMES.

I ALSO THINK THAT THERE HAS TO BE A MISTAKE...

THIS ISN'T A TIME FOR JOKES, DOCTOR!

N-NO WAY... SHE HAS NO ORGANS OR A BRAIN?!

A BAUM-KUCHEN... AHAHAHA!

AHA... AHAHA-HAHA!

SHE'S LIKE A BAUM-KUCHEN!

T-THAT MEANS...

PR/N – A type of layer cake from Germany

YOU CAN PHYSICALLY SEE THE GROWTH RECORD.

A BAUMKUCHEN, HUH? I SEE. HOWEVER, I THINK IT'S MORE LIKE THE RINGS OF A TREE OR THE RIDGES OF A SHELL.

WHAT DO YOU MEAN?

A RECORD OF HER GROWTH?

THAT WOULDN'T BE A WILD GUESS.

IN YOUR DAUGHTER'S CASE, I'D SAY IT'S THE SAME.

3 YEARS... 4 YEARS...
10 YEARS... 16 YEARS...

GOING OUTWARDS YOU SEE... 0 YEARS... 1 YEAR... 2 YEARS...

BASICALLY, YOU HAVE HER EMBRYONIC FORM IN THE CENTER.

THE OUTER LAYER IS HER CURRENT STATE.

AND AT THE END, HER TWENTIETH YEAR!

17 YEARS...
18 YEARS...

19 YEARS...

THAT'S WHAT I THINK.

YES... AT LEAST HER PHYSICAL APPEARANCE.

SO DOCTOR... ARE YOU SAYING THAT REIMI'S YOUNGER SELVES...

...ARE INSIDE HER? EVEN NOW?

DOCTOR, I REFUSE.

...

IT'S NECESSARY TO CONTINUE THE TREATMENT ON YOUR DAUGHTER'S FACE.

MA'AM, I'D LIKE TO THOROUGHLY EXAMINE YOUR DAUGHTER.

WHICH MEANS THAT THE SHE'LL RECEIVE UNWANTED ATTENTION FROM THE WHOLE WORLD.

I'LL BE HONEST WITH YOU. AT THIS RATE, SHE'LL BE TAKEN TO SOME KIND OF LAB FOR FUTURE EXAMINATION.

I'M TAKING HER HOME.

B-BUT...

WHAT?!

...

PLEASE DON'T DISCLOSE WHAT YOU HAVE FOUND TODAY.

I DON'T WANT HER TO BE EXPOSED TO THE WHOLE WORLD AS A FREAK.

WE'RE TAKING REIMI HOME ONCE HER WOUND HEALS. I WANT YOU TO HELP ME.

NARUMI...

HUH?

MOM...

THIS IS A CURSE.

IT LOOKED EXACTLY LIKE REIMI'S MRI.

I STILL REMEMBER IT... THE PHOTO OF THE LAYERS WITH THE SKULL OF A BABY...

21 YEARS AGO... THE TOMB AT THE AJIME MIDDEN THAT DAD DISCOVERED...

MOM, DO YOU REMEMBER THOSE RUINS?

HOWEVER, THAT WASN'T THE END OF THE STORY.

THE CURSED PASSED ONTO REIMI, WHO WAS BORN A YEAR AFTER DAD'S DISCOVERY.

AND NINE YEARS AFTER HE EXCAVATED THAT TOMB, HE PASSED AWAY.

HIS MENTAL STATE DETERIORATED,

AND DAD BROKE THE SEAL.

THAT TOMB WAS CURSED...

LOOK! HERE'S THE PROOF!

EVER SINCE I WAS TWO, THE CURSE HAS TAKEN ITS TOLL ON ME.

AND THEN...

THE CURSE ALSO SPREAD TO ME!

JUST LIKE REIMI,

I HAVE SEVERAL LAYERS OF TEETH AS WELL!

REIMI, DOES YOUR WOUND STILL HURT?

NO, MOM.

SOMA

GOOD GIRL.

OK.

I PROMISE YOU I'LL TAKE CARE OF IT.

REIMI, YOU DON'T HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT THE SCAR ON YOUR FACE.

I HAVE AN IDEA.

HEY.

I'M AGAINST IT.

DON'T TALK TO ME ABOUT SUCH UNSCIENTIFIC RUBBISH...

WE'LL ASK SEITO UNIVERSITY WHERE THE SKULL IS KEPT AND GIVE IT A MEMORIAL SERVICE!

LET'S HOLD A MEMORIAL SERVICE.

I'LL TAKE CARE OF IT!

NO, IT'S NOT A CURSE! THIS IS A DISEASE, REIMI.

B-BUT...

IT'S A CURSE, ISN'T IT?

BUT MOM, WE WON'T KNOW WHETHER IT WORKS OR NOT UNLESS WE TRY.

IT'S NOT SOMETHING MODERN MEDICINE CAN HEAL!

PLEASE STOP! I'M NOT A CHILD ANY-MORE!

SO... WHAT EX-ACTLY WILL YOU DO?

I'LL FIND THE BEST DOCTOR!

R-REIMI!

I'M AN ADULT!

STOP TREAT-ING ME LIKE AN IDIOT!

I'M TIRED OF YOUR DOTING ON ME!

DON'T TOUCH ME! YOU CREEP ME OUT!

EVEN THIS ACCIDENT HAPPENED BECAUSE OF YOU!

REIMI, DEAR...

REIMI...

CREAK

CREAK

THE TWO-YEAR-OLD REIMI...

ANSWER IF YOU CAN HEAR ME.

MOMMY IS HERE, CAN YOU HEAR ME?

REIMI...

REIMI...

REIMI...

WHEN WILL YOU REPLY?

REIMI...

MY CUTE LITTLE REIMI... ANSWER ME...

HEY, CAN YOU HEAR ME?

REIMI...

MY TWO-YEAR-OLD REIMI... YOU'RE THERE... I KNOW YOU'RE RIGHT THERE...

OH REIMI... WHY WON'T YOU REPLY?

...

REIMI...

REIMI...

REIMI...

MAMA...

...

MAMA...

MAMA...

MAMA...

MAMA, CARRY ME...

CARRY ME...

OH, MY POOR GIRL!

YOU WANT... OUT OF THERE, REIMI?

I... I HAVE TO DO SOME-THING...

MAMA, TAKE ME OUT OF HERE.

TAKE ME OUT OF HERE...

AH, REIMI! YOU'VE FINALLY HEARD ME!

MAMA CARRY ME...

HOW I'VE MISSED YOUR VOICE...

CARRY ME.

WHAT'S WRONG?!

REIMI!

AH!

GUAAAH!

♪

ARE YOU INSANE?!

DO YOU REALIZE WHAT YOU'RE DOING?!

M... MOM?!

WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU DOING?!

COME ON! WE HAVE TO DO IT WHILE THE BAD REIMI IS ASLEEP!

I'M JUST PEELING OFF THE BAD SKIN...

WE HAVE TO GET HER ALL THE WAY BACK TO HER TWO-YEAR-OLD SELF.

IT'S ALRIGHT!

HURRY AND LEMME OUT...

MAMA... MAMA...

CARRY ME! CARRY ME...

MOTHER!

MAMA.

?!

FROM THIS DARK AND NARROW PLACE...

NOW MY CUTE REIMI, I'LL LET YOU OUT...

SHE, HERSELF, IS ASKING FOR THIS.

DO YOU RECOGNIZE IT? THIS IS THE VOICE OF BABY REIMI.

SLUMP

JUST WAIT A MOMENT... I MUST BE VERY CAREFUL...

MAMA, HURRY UP...

SLICE

RIP
RIP
RIP
RIP
NOT YET!
NO!
STOP!
MOTHER...
RIP
SO CLOSE!
I'M ALMOST THERE!
...
RIP
RIP

MY TWO-YEAR-OLD REIMI!

WE... WE FINALLY MEET...

CARRY ME...

MAMA...

MAMA!

CARRY ME...

IT'S NOT THAT EASY TO PEEL OFF HER LAYERS!

NARUMI! GIVE ME A HAND!

WAIT A MOMENT!

I'LL PEEL OFF YOUR BODY!

RIP

RIP

RIP

RIP

WHAT'S THIS?

HEY...

HUFF

HUFF

HUFF

WHAT IN THE HELL...

...IS GOING ON?!

MAMA, CARRY ME...

GIGGLE!
GIGGLE!

MAMA, CARRY ME...

HER INSIDES EXPANDED AS SHE GREW UP.

IT MAKES SENSE IF YOU THINK ABOUT IT!

HER HANDS, FEET, ARMS AND LEGS... AS SHE GREW, THEY ALL STRETCHED AWAY FROM THE CENTER.

SLICE

LOOK AT ME, NARUMI!

HERE I GO!

I HAVE A GREAT IDEA! THE CURSE MUST HAVE LATCHED ON TO ME AS WELL.

SO, I'LL ALSO PEEL OFF MY SKIN AND RETURN TO MY 38-YEAR-OLD SELF...

AND THEN I'LL GIVE BIRTH TO REIMI AGAIN!

MOM?!

WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU DOING?!

KIMI

SHE WASN'T AFFECTED BY THE CURSE...

MOM...

GYAAH!

I HAVE TO RELEASE THE CURSE!

I HAVE TO RE-LEASE THE CURSE...

THE PROB-LEM STILL IS THE CURSE OF THE RUINS...

THANK YOU FOR COMING ALL THE WAY HERE.

OH, YOU'RE THE DAUGHTER OF PROFESSOR SOYA?

Seito University

AFTER PROFESSOR SOYA'S DEATH, THE SKULL WENT MISSING.

REGARDING THE SKULL OF AN INFANT FOUND AT THE AJIME MIDDEN...

WE FILED A REPORT WITH THE POLICE AND SEARCHED EVERY-WHERE... BUT IN THE END, WE NEVER FOUND IT.

MOM HAS SHUT HERSELF INTO THAT ROOM.

I CAN LIVE A NORMAL LIFE, BUT WITH EACH PASSING DAY, MY SENSE OF HELPLESSNESS GROWS STRONGER.

SEVERAL YEARS HAVE PASSED AFTER THAT... BUT WE WERE STILL AFFLICTED BY THE CURSE.

MAMA...

CARRY ME...

AND REIMI HAS STARTED TO GAIN LAYERS AGAIN.

IT SEEMS LIKE ONCE YOU PEEL OFF HER SKIN, IT DOESN'T GROW BACK THE SAME WAY.

HOWEVER, HER APPEARANCE DOESN'T RESEMBLE WHAT SHE USED TO LOOK LIKE AT ALL...

THE CURSE... THE FEAR... IT NEVER STOPS!

End

伊藤潤二祝 画業30周年記念インタビュー

――漫画家生活30周年を迎えた心境をお聞かせください。

伊藤　そんなに時間がたっているのか、というのが正直なところですね。デビュー当時は特に忙しくもなく、歯科技工士の仕事と漫画家業を3年くらい両立していました。3年目に入る頃には、仕事の両立がきつくて、体が痩せ細っていって体重が50キロくらいになりましたが（笑）。

――デビューからお仕事は順調でしたか?

伊藤　ずっと順調だったと思います。『月刊ハロウィン』があった頃はコンスタントにお仕事をいただけましたので。雑誌が休刊してから小学館の『ビックコミックスピリッツ』の仕事も入りました。もちろん『眠れぬ夜の奇妙な話』『ネムキ』の仕事もありましたので、忙しくさせてもらいました。でも、徐々にスランプを感じるようにもなりました。デビュー当時はそんなものを感じることはなかったんです。「スランプって何だろう?」というくらい（笑）。

――それはいつ頃のことですか?

伊藤　「うずまき」を描いているあたりですかね。それまでは何とか締め切りに間に合って、それなりに自分でも納得して仕事をしていました。それが年とともになかなかアイディアもだんだん出なくなりまして……。昔のような万能感を感じなくなりました。

――万能感を感じたのはいつ頃のことですか?

伊藤　「首吊り気球」を描いていたあたりですかね。でもアイディアが浮かばなくても、不思議とやめたくなることはなかったです。漫画家生活いろいろありましたが、一度もやめたいと思ったことはありません。漫画家は楽しい仕事ですよね。もちろん描いていると体はつらいですし、しんどいですけど。私の場合は何本も連載を抱えたりしないで、自分のペースで無理なく仕事していることが長年続けられている秘訣かもしれませんね。

――今後はこういう仕事がしたいなという目標は?

伊藤　ちゃんとした長編を描いていきたいなというのはあります。長編がどうも苦手なので……。いい作品を残したいということしか考えていないので、こういうジャンルを描きたいとか具体的に思い浮かぶものはないですね。

――漫画以外に挑戦してみたいことはありますか?

伊藤　油絵を描きたいですね。ホラーの絵もいいですけど、いろいろ描いてみたいです。今、仕事ではパソコンでカラー原稿や漫画を描いていますが、それは時間的に仕方ないからやっています。できればアナログの手描きで描きたいです。手描きのカラー原稿の場合、私は透明水彩で描いていまして、これは失敗したからといって、上から色をかぶせることはできないんですよね。失敗したらやり直しです。でもデジタルは失敗してもすぐ直せますし、締め切りを考えるとやりやすいんですよね。

――30年間で変わったものはありますか?

伊藤　単純に体力が衰えたなと。40代に入ってきた頃から変わりましたね。あと家族ができて、子供が生まれたのも変わりましたね。子供がいると気が散ります（笑）。仕事をしていると集中が途切れちゃうことがある。でも家族ができたことで、精神的には安定しましたね。

――『ネムキプラス』の読者にメッセージをお願いします。

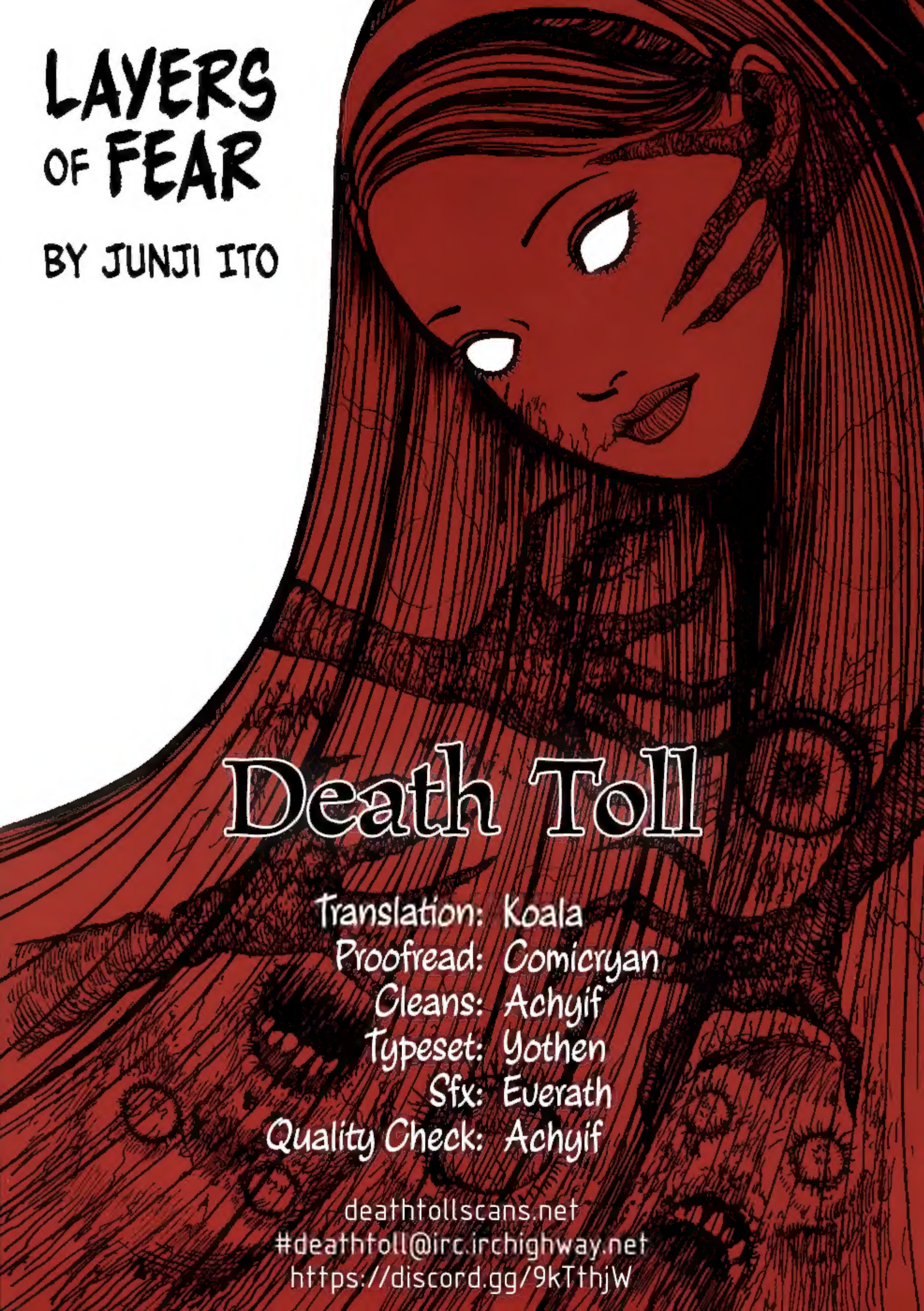
伊藤　『ネムキプラス』は私のベースの雑誌です。これからもホラーを頑張って描いていきたいと思っています。今年は小学館のほうで1年ほど連載が入っていますが、それが終わったら、『ネムキプラス』で描く予定です。

またこの雑誌でいい作品を描きたいですね。30年たっても、まだまだ創作する意欲はなくならないので、もっといい作品、後世に残るものを描いていきたいと思います。

――ありがとうございました。楽しみに待っています!

LAYERS OF FEAR

BY JUNJI ITO



Death Toll

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